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Attorney's Docket No. 5576-131

PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Maeda et al. Confirmation No.: 9818  
Appl. No.: 09/631,491 Group Art Unit: 1742  
Filed: August 3, 2000 Examiner: H. Wilkins, III  
For: HYDROGEN ABSORBING ALLOY AND  
NICKEL-METAL HYDRIDE RECHARGEABLE BATTERY

November 19, 2003

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113. The Final Office Action was mailed on May 23, 2003.

Attached is a list of documents on form PTO-1449 together with copies of each identified document. Also enclosed is a translation or a concise explanation of each non-English language document.

By submitting the listed documents, Applicant in no way makes any admission as to the prior art status of the listed documents, but is instead submitting the listed documents for the sake of full disclosure.

In accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)(2), the following statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is made:

Each item of information contained in this statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this statement.

11/24/2003 SLUANG1 00000038 09631491

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180.00 OP

In re: Maeda et al.  
Appl. No.: 09/631,491  
Filed: August 3, 2000  
Page 2

A check for the \$180.00 fee specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is enclosed. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fee, or credit any refund, to our Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

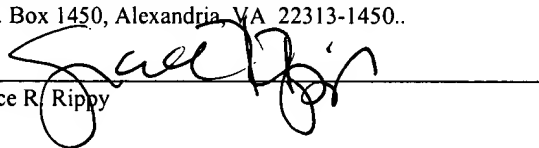


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Grace R. Rippey

Substitute for form 1449/PTO  
(Revised 04/2003)

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number 09/631,491  
Filing Date August 3, 2000  
First Named Inventor Maeda et al.  
Group Art Unit 1742  
Examiner Name H. Wilkins III  
Attorney Docket Number 5576-131

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number Number - Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages of Relevant Figures Appear
		US-			
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code - Number Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	English Language Translation Attached
	7	JP 7-56803	06/14/1995	Matsushita Electric Ind. Co. Ltd.		

Examiner  
Signature

Date  
Considered

\*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. CLT01/4620289v1